

Application No. 09/735,721

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3-15 and amend Claim 2 as follows:

A3 2. (Amended) The article of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is a thermoplastic blank or thermoplastic blank film.

{Please add the following new Claims 16-45:}

3/16. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the release agent and release sheet are located on a first surface of the flock and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is positioned on a second surface of the flock and the first and second surfaces are in an opposing relationship.

A4 4/17. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises polyurethane.

5/18. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the hot melt sheet is cut, before application to the flocked transfer, to correspond to a shape of the flocked transfer.

6/19. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises at least first and second parts, the first and second parts having differing properties.

[Application No. 09/735,721]

7²⁰. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1⁶₉, wherein the first and second parts have differing melting temperatures.

8²¹. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1⁶₉, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein the first part has a higher melting temperature than the second part.

9²². (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1⁶₉, wherein the first and second parts have differing viscosities when the first and second parts are melted.

10²³. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1⁶₉, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein, when the first and second parts are melted, the first part has a higher viscosity temperature than the second part.

11²⁴. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1⁶₉, wherein the first and second parts are in the form of films and the films are laminated together.

12²⁵. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is preformed before application to the flock and substrate.

Application No. 09/735,721

13 ~~76~~. (New) A flocked transfer comprising a release sheet, a release agent on the release sheet, and flock on the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern; the release agent holding the flock to the release sheet, wherein the free surface of the flock is in contact with a thermoplastic hot melt sheet.

14 ~~77~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the transfer is adhered to a substrate and the substrate is applied using the thermoplastic hot melt sheet.

15 ~~78~~. (New) The article of claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is a thermoplastic blank or thermoplastic blank film.

16 ~~79~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the release agent and release sheet are located on a first surface of the flock and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is positioned on a second surface of the flock and the first and second surfaces are in an opposing relationship.

17 ~~80~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises polyurethane.

18 ~~81~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the hot melt sheet is cut, before application to the flocked transfer, to correspond to a shape of the flocked transfer.

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[Application No. 09/735,721]

19 ~~32~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ¹³~~26~~, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises at least first and second parts, the first and second parts having differing properties.

20 ~~33~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ¹⁹~~32~~, wherein the first and second parts have differing melting temperatures.

21 ~~34~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ²⁰~~33~~, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein the first part has a higher melting temperature than the second part.

22 ~~35~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ¹⁹~~32~~, wherein the first and second parts have differing viscosities when the first and second parts are melted.

23 ~~36~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ²²~~35~~, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein, when the first and second parts are melted, the first part has a higher viscosity than the second part.

24 ~~37~~. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ¹⁹~~32~~, wherein the first and second parts are laminated together.

{Application No. 09/735,721}

25 ¹³38. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is preformed before application to the flock and substrate.

26 ³⁹39. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein there is no binder adhesive between the flock and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet.

27 ⁴⁰40. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein there is no binder adhesive between the flock and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet.

28 ⁴¹41. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~26~~¹³, wherein the flock comprises a plurality of flock fibers and at least most of the plurality of flock fibers are in contact with the hot melt sheet.

29 ⁴²42. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~27~~¹⁴, wherein the substrate comprises rubber.

30 ⁴³43. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~42~~²⁹, wherein a fringe material extends outwardly from peripheral edges of the substrate.

31 ⁴⁴44. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises rubber.

32 ⁴⁵45. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim ~~44~~³¹, wherein a fringe material extends outwardly from peripheral edges of the substrate.

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